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NEWSWEEK 12-15

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NEW YORK (UPI) -- ~~NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE REPORTS THAT SOVIET LEADER LEONID BREZHNEV~~
HENRY A. KISSINGER HAS BEEN TOLD SOVIET PARTY LEADER LEONID BREZHNEV
IS TERMINALLY ILL.

NEWSWEEK SAID IT WAS TOLD THAT ANATOLY DOBRYNNIN, THE SOVIET
AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, HAD INFORMED KISSINGER OF THE
ILLNESS.

THE ARTICLE QUOTED OBSERVERS AT THE RECENT POLISH COMMUNITY PARTY
CONGRESS IN WARSAW AS SAYING BREZHNEV STUMBED OVER COMMON WORDS AND
SPOKE UNUSUALLY SLOWLY.

SOME DIPLOMATICS EVEN THOUGHT HE MAY HAVE USED A SUNLAMP OR MAKEUP
TO COVER A SALLOW COMPLEXION, THE MAGAZINE SAID.

BREZHNEV HAS FREQUENTLY BEEN REPORTED SUFFERING FROM CANCER OF THE
JAW IN RECENT MONTHS, NEWSWEEK SAID.

OBSERVERS AT THE CONGRESS SAID HE STUMBED SLIGHTLY WHEN WALKING
DOWN THE STEPS OF THE CONFERENCE HALL.

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HUGHES 12-15

PHILADELPHIA (UPI) -- BILLIONAIRE RECLUSE HOWARD HUGHES HAS BEEN
AWARDED AT LEAST \$6 BILLION IN CONTRACTS BY THE U. S. GOVERNMENT IN
THE PAST 10 YEARS, THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER SAID IN A COPYRIGHTED
ARTICLE IN ITS SUNDAY EDITION.

THE INQUIRER SAID 80 PER CENT OF THE CONTRACTS WERE AWARDED
WITHOUT COMPETITIVE BIDDING.

THE \$6 BILLION FIGURE, MOST OF WHICH REPRESENTED DEFENSE
DEPARTMENT CONTRACTS, WAS A "FIRM MINIMUM" BASED ON AVAILABLE
GOVERNMENT RECORDS, THE NEWSPAPER SAID.

THE ARTICLE SAID HUGHES' FIRMS RECEIVED "MANY CONTRACTS" FROM THE
CIA BUT THE AGENCY REFUSED TO DISCLOSE DOLLAR AMOUNTS.

DURING AN EIGHT-MONTH INVESTIGATION BY THE NEWSPAPER, THE ARTICLE
SAID, THE GOVERNMENT WENT "TO EXTRAORDINARY LENGTHS" TO PROTECT
HUGHES.

"HOWARD HUGHES HAS BECOME ALMOST A CLANDESTINE BRANCH OF THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, OPERATING IN TOTAL SECRECY, GUARANTEED SECRET
PROFITS, CHECKED OR MONITORED BY NO OUTSIDE FORCE WHATSOEVER," THE
PAPER SAID.

"HUGHES AND HIS ENTERPRISES, AS MEASURED BY ALL THE AVAILABLE
EVIDENCE, RECEIVED MORE AMERICAN TAX MONEY--OVER \$11.6 MILLION A
WEEK, EVERY WEEKED. FRAIR14seP2004/10/27ABIA-BDPERM00144R00060f00008-
BUSINESS IN THE WORLD," THE INQUIRER SAID.